

PROGRAM JANUARY-APRIL 2024

Professor: AguyBoustourre

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	Topics
1	Presentation of the main topics, stereotypes, bibliography
2	Major government's websites, media and political trends
3	<b>Presentation of France</b> -French cities, rivers, mountains, neighbor states, France in the world, local divisions -France's demographics and its consequences
4	<b>Power in France and French politics: what is so different from the USA?</b> -The making of laws, elections - The French justice system: so different -Local decentralized powers
5	<b>French at work: are French lazier than Americans?</b> -Workweek hours -Paid vacation , unionism ,strikes, days off, bank holidays
6	<b>The French social system</b> -What kinds of support are offered? -Recent issues concerning the financing of the system and the new pension system
7	<b>The French school system</b> -Steps from kindergarten to University/college -The high school reformation
8	<b>Gaps in the French society</b> -Immigration -The "banlieues" -Religion: a burning issue -Women in France: a quest for equality -The Yellow vest movement

**ASSESSMENT**

- Homeworks : between 8 and 10 will be given I'll keep the best 3 : 10 % each
- One research paper due the **last day of class**: subject freely chosen or taken from a list of proposed subjects 30 % ( 800-1000 words)
- One final exam consisting in short-answered questions on what was studied (**NO** multiple choice) 30%
- Participation and attendance: 10 %